



Student Union of NSCAD
D250, 5163 Duke Street
Halifax, NS B3J 3J6

September 19, 2019

Council Meeting Minutes

Present: Peri, Olivia, Cassidy, Eric, Lilly, Emma, Melissa, Kris, Emily (Student), Sage (Outdoors Club), Eli, Asha (Late)

Absent: Katrina, Ye

Regrets:

Chair: Cassidy

Secretary: Cassidy

Call to order 6:12PM.

Olivia motions to approve the agenda. Emma seconds.

Emma motions to approve last meetings' minutes. Olivia seconds.

Kassidy begins the meeting by recognizing we are situated on unceded and unsurrendered Mi'kmaq territory, which is covered under the Peace and Friendship Treaties since 1725. It is our responsibility to understand our relationship with the land as stewards, arrivants, and settlers.

Signatures:

President

Resource Coordinator

Reports

SUNSCAD Executive

Kassidy Bernard, She/Her // President // president@sunscad.org

Time to Be Bold Webinar, emails, minutes, council prep, office hours

Peri McFarlane, She/Her or They/Them // VP Finance // finance@sunscad.org

Olivia Fay, All Pronouns // VP Internal // internal@sunscad.org

Planned and executed five successful events (in my opinion) for O-Week

Booked three events for the next 11/2 months including a Critique Survival Workshop, Family Dinner, and Halloween Dance

Contacted and conversed with students about their hopes and opinions regarding their school experience

Asha Galloway, She/Her // VP External // external@sunscad.org

SUNSCAD Council

Katrina Tomas, She/Her // Design Rep // designrep@sunscad.org

Eric Duplessis, He/Him // Media Arts Rep // mediaartsrep@sunscad.org

In my time thus far as the Media Arts Rep for SUNSCAD, I have made plans to begin work on instructional and promotional videos for NSCAD and SUNSCAD. Students have suggested topics such as:

What is SUNSCAD, How to navigate the NSCAD campuses, The Food Bank, The Writing Centre, Multimedia, Introduction to each academic program

I will be searching for other students to assist me with these projects.

I have spoken to others about improvements to the kitchenette space. They have suggested that the space be more regularly cleaned, or provide more cleaning resources for students to clean up after themselves. Get a wall can opener, a dish soap dispenser (on the wall). A toaster oven or convection oven. And more cabinet space.

Lily Barrett, She//They/He // Member at Large // memberatlarge@sunscad.org

Emma Barrett, She/Her // Accessibility Rep // accessibilityrep@sunscad.org

Will be meeting with Bill Travis, to go over how to be most effective in her role. Bill is meeting with the President to talk about accessibility in general. Emma would also like to meet with the President soon, Cassidy invited her to the next meeting along with SUNSCAD Executive.

Ye Lin // MDes Rep // mdesrep@sunscad.org

Kris Reppas, He/Him // Indigenous Rep // indigenousrep@sunscad.org

Melissa Campbell, She/Her // paintingrep@sunscad.org

I talked to a lot of the painting students about the Kitchenette space and made a pro con list. All though I think it is a great idea, there seem to be many students concerned about the tidiness of the space due to the mice population at NSCAD.

| Pros | Cons |
|--|--|
| -More inviting space -More of a community | -Must be kept in better condition than it is now -Mice problem could become a bigger issue -Would there be a stove? -How would this affect students with severe food allergies? |

I also talked to the painting students about any general questions or concerns they had, this is what came up in conversation.

- Is there or can there be a tax free place for students to get supplies?
- Communal supplies
- Concerns about the lack of ventilation in the painting studios

General Discussion

New Business

By-Elections

We have hired a CRO, Elizabeth Graham, who will be posting about the election and we are planning to follow the timeline below:

Nominations open Sept 23

Nominations close Sept 30

Campaigning starts Sept 30

Campaigning closes Oct 14

Election happens Oct 15, 16, 17

Do we need an elections committee? There is not much interest at this point.

Kassidy states that she had reviewed the By-Laws and did not see a problem with it, but it has not been common practice to ratify new Council representatives when we are expecting to hold a by-election. We did this in our last council meeting, so she would like to hold a vote whether to accept the ratifications that took already.

Peri motions to accept the approval of the representatives ratified in the last council meeting on August 30th, 2019. Kris seconds. Motion passes.

Executive Wages

Scenarios and budget presented by Peri, printed for Council's review. Kassidy reiterates from last meeting, that SUNSCAD supports the Fight for \$15 and Fairness that supports to shift to living wages rather than minimum wage. We already pay our Resource Coordinator a living wage, and want to continue to reflect this internally through changes that start with the Executive wages, as well as determining how to positively change honorarium and staff positions we employ through SUNSCAD in the spirit of this value.

Sage brings up that TAs and students with NSCAD jobs are working with minimum wages. As a graduate student, a student used to get a living wage. With an influx of graduate students, now it has seemed to change. Sage thinks that as Master students, she feels that they fall through the cracks between being both a student and in teaching positions. Peri suggests that Sage, Mathew (UNSCAD), and Solomon (MFA Supervisor) meet to discuss this.

Eric asks about the origin of where honorariums are being decided. HE mentions that at the media centre he receives an honorarium. Technician assistants and master students honorariums are decided in the same space, Peri states. There are two committees mentioned, Budget Advisory Committee (majority NSCAD members) Finance and Physical Resources (Board members).

Last year Emma was working in the ceramics department for minimum wage; which is hard with such a laborious position.

Eli is part of the union for their student position, which is paid differently than other students.

Sage will help Peri set up a meeting with Lisa, who can help give insight into the wages at NSCAD positions.

A roundtable discussion continues about how we as student union members can advocate better on behalf of all students, in a variety of positions. Everyone agrees that we should start a group that works on advocating for fair labour compensation. Peri states this campaign requires a more focused group rather than just Finance Committee, such as a \$15 and Fairness Committee.

Emma motions to strike a Fight for \$15 and Fairness Committee, Peri seconds. Motion passes. Peri volunteers to chair the committee.

Emma mentions that we are not sure what is under our power, so what is possible to oppose? Cassidy clarifies that we can oppose or advocate for anything that students see the need for.

Kris was talking to Joe and Katherine, and that if there were leftover materials fees, they used to be reimbursed to students. Peri asks Eric if they got that in a different course, but he clarifies that they were reimbursed for spending on projects, so he doesn't think other students did. They agree that it is supposed to be reimbursed to students.

The conversation returns to the Executive wages, and Council reviews the scenarios once more. A discussion of the makeup of hours and how that works internally with Executive takes place. Cassidy explains that the Executive have a maximum of 17 hours/week for President and 10 hours/week for Vice Presidents. In the past, Executive have not always fully used their maximum hours so the budget line has not always reached its maximum either. Cassidy explains the remuneration by-laws and practices, and how carry-over hours are used, rather than overtime hours. Peri states that in a previous year, they voted to pay the rest of the remaining hours of executive that was distributed evenly across the year in lieu of the unused Summer semester hours. This is not a common practice.

Peri motions to amend the Standing Resolution 1 until a permanent student body decision is made at the next General Meeting, to read:

C. The wage for the president is based on a maximum of 30 hours every two weeks at a locked rate of \$15 which can be reviewed whenever council deems necessary. The locked rate can be changed at a General Meeting.

D The wage for the following positions is based on a maximum of 20 hours every two weeks at a locked rate of \$15 which can be reviewed whenever council deems necessary. The locked rate can be changed at a General Meeting.

- i. Vice President Academic**
- ii. Vice President Cultural Affairs**
- iii. Vice President External**
- iv. Vice President Internal**
- v. Vice President Finance**

Emma seconds. Motion passes.

Internal (Events) Committee

Olivia describes the committee, saying that students volunteer their time graciously to help with events throughout the year.

First Internal Committee Meeting to be held on September 26th. See student email dispatch for details.

She is looking to host a Spring Pop Up as one example of an event!

Olivia motions to strike the Events Committee. Melissa seconds. Motion passes. Olivia will chair this committee.

External Committee

Asha describes the committee, and her position. She is in charge of everything happening that comes from outside the school. The main goals from CFS include Fight the Fees and Time to Be Bold campaign for the Federal Election.

Federal Election Candidates are being held at King's on October 8th, 2019.

Student Activist Training: during SKILLS on the last weekend of September!

Committee also can involve finding opportunities for students to sell their art, art opportunities to collaborate with.

Emma motions to strike External Committee. Eric seconds. Motion passes. Asha will chair this Committee.

Clubs

Sage is running the Outdoors Club, and saw the by-laws that they require a rep to be at our meetings. She is looking to find a way to keep in touch outside of meetings, especially finding out agenda items that may be relevant to their club. They will mainly be a Facebook group to meet, and do not see that it is feasible being at the meetings all the time. Peri explains that this is not a major expectation, but Cassidy does remind Sage that reports and funding reports are needed.

For funding, Sage asks if they just keep receipts and get reimbursements. Peri clarifies that there are funding forms on the website: "Clubs and Collectives Money Request Form" or similar. The request will be decided upon in a council meeting. Cassidy leaves the room and returns with a funding request form for Sage to fill out.

Kris wants to have workshops, so may need to provide honorariums. What is the estimated amount? Peri or Cassidy will get back to Kris on Tuesday when Tara is back. It is possible that he can do fundraising if needed, which Executive could assist with.

Melissa asks how someone would be able to start a club. Peri says that anyone can fill out a ratification form. Melissa would like to start a Theatre Club of some sort. She states that we have so many students that can create backdrops, props, and costumes. Council is enthusiastic about this idea, especially knowing that most every division can get involved. Peri suggests that Melissa reach out to Jacinte Armstrong about performance art.

Sage provides a funding request for two trips (two drivers and two vehicles maybe). \$10 for the first trip, and \$100 for the second trip. \$110 budgeted in total. A membership fee may be useful for the club, to go towards our gas fund.

Melissa motions to accept the Outdoors Club funding request of \$110 in total. Eric seconds. Motion passes.

Olivia asks if Cassidy can get another funding request form. Cassidy leaves the room and returns with a funding request form for Olivia to fill out.

Melissa motions to accept the Running Club funding request, \$100 for the year, involving supplies for runners and food. Kris seconds. Motion passes.

Olivia would like to collab with Outdoors Club, perhaps a trail run. Sage says they might be doing a biking trip too. They are looking at Herring Cove Bluffs and another location.

Video

Eric noticed, since before and starting at NSCAD, that he was looking up videos to have a feel for the community to learn more about it. He could only find “shitty” thesis films found on YouTube. Olivia mentions that there is a video that interviews students that found success.

Eric would like to make many videos this year to service instructional and promotional videos. This could be for things that happened at NSCAD, and for potential students who are interested in NSCAD. He wants to promote community, by showing what is happening here.

He is hoping to have a list of topics to cover in this project. He would like to do both NSCAD and SUNSCAD videos. He would like a video that explains our student union. We have many council vacancies; he wants students more engaged.

Emma points out that now that Ontario has student union fees optional, it is crucial to highlight the importance of student unions. We should look at putting the video out through email, Instagram, website, on monitors, and send to faculty to share with students.

Van

Olivia would like to look into possibilities for a NSCAD/SUNSCAD van. Cassidy says that SUNSCAD will look into it.

Old Business

Kitchenette: Contract and Use

Eric shares that Wesley, a NSCAD student, thought the kitchenette should be more regularly cleaned. How can we reinforce self-cleaning by students? Emma suggests we put out cleaning products out near where the coffee is available; spray and cloths/paper towels for example. If the supplies are there, they may be used. Can we have somebody regularly clean it?

Asha points out that we do consider it a student run space so it is the students’ responsibility to clean up after themselves. Asha and the food bank assistants will be supervising the space.

Olivia says that students need to respect the space. Emma thinks that maybe we need signs visible. Eric suggests a video be made for the food bank. Emma says that she would like to deep clean the space.

Asha points out that we looked at the insurance before so that students use the space to prepare food, and they did not like the idea of it.

Melissa suggests that we could consider the instalment of signs stating how to use the space, and the consequences of not keeping it clean. Microwaves need to be cleaned as well.

Kassidy suggests that we look into the psychology of environmental design.

What about rewarding students to do a clean up every month through a Kitchenette space?

It would be lovely to build more community with the kitchenette space. It is not inviting in its current state. Painting might brighten it up a bit, as well as better shelving and lighting. Kassidy shares that James from facilities could help with providing needed changes, Peri states that she has asked for an air conditioner and would like a dehumidifier as well.

Kris motions to strike and chair a Food Bank Committee. Emma seconds. Motion passes.

What about the Love Dumpster? Emma is wondering if we can change it so it is less “dumpster” like. Eric volunteers to create a video of the clothes available. The area should have a mirror as well. A small half wall instead of the full wall, to encourage tidiness. Asha suggests that a curation process may be needed for the area.

Emma motions to amend the Food Bank Committee to be the Student Lounge Committee, and will co-chair with Kris.

Collective Space

Kassidy updates everyone on the meeting with Aoife: i.e. the pop-up spaces in the bottom floor of Fountain Campus, and changing the art store to Port Campus. People are looking for where to buy student art. Olivia says that there are more opportunities to meet with Aoife in the future. We will likely be seeing her on a bi-weekly basis to collaborate on these items and more for students.

Announcements

Activist Training Registration: see your emails for details on how to register!

Federal Election: election season is here, please check out cfs-fcee.ca for more information on party platforms regarding student issues.

Period Poverty Summit: happening in October, more info to come.

Olivia motions to adjourn.

Meeting adjourns at 8:20pm.